

The 101% lid lift election is, usually, one of the easiest elections for a fire district. We have included with this letter a sample resolution, ballot title and RCW authorization information.

The most important factor for a successful lid lift is to have a complete understanding within the organization; if the commissioners, chief, secretary, firefighters and the local service clubs understand that you are only "restoring" your levy, they will be helpful informing the public of your services.

It is a good idea to figure out how many additional dollars a lid lift election will provide for the district. If the commissioners then determine what those additional funds will be used for, you will be able to show the voting public that the small additional tax will be beneficial.

Because of the public disclosure law the district cannot expend any funds in support of a ballot issue; the association does feel, however, that it is the duty of the board of commissioners to inform the general public of the service levels and programs of the district. If you like, I would be happy to discuss the ramifications of the election with you either by telephone or at an opportune time for your district.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional help at this time.

Sincerely,

Roger Ferris
Executive Secretary

RF/ne

Enclosures

P.S. We suggest samples of property values be shown demonstrating fire district tax before and after lid lift.

Current rate \$.75 if lifted to \$1.00:

		Year	Year	Monthly
		<u>Current</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Increase</u>
i.e.	\$ 40,000	\$ 30.00	\$ 40.00	\$.83
	\$ 60,000	\$ 45.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 1.25
	\$ 75,000	\$ 56.25	\$ 75.00	\$ 1.56
	\$100,000	\$ 75.00	\$100.00	\$ 2.08

_____ County Fire District No. _____

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A resolution of the Board of Fire Commissioners of _____ County Fire Protection District No. _____, providing for the submission to the qualified electors of the district at an election to be held on _____ (month/day/year) in conjunction with _____ County Fire Protection District No. _____;

WHEREAS, in the judgement of the Board of Fire Commissioners, it is essential and necessary for the protection of the public health, life, and property, that necessary equipment and apparatus be acquired and public services be provided to adequately meet the safety needs of the district's community; and,

WHEREAS, the cost increase of operation has exceeded revenue, because of restrictions imposed by RCW 84.55.010;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Fire Commissioners of _____ County Fire Protection District No. _____ submit a proposal to the qualified electors of said district requesting authorization to increase the regular property tax levy to \$_____ * per thousand of assessed valuation, which is authorized under RCW 84.55.050.

ADOPTED at the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of _____ County Fire Protection District No. _____, this _____ day of _____, 2_____.

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

District Secretary

*See Attachment A

SAMPLE BALLOT TITLE

AUTHORIZING PROPERTY TAX LEVY

Shall (name of taxing district) be authorized to increase its regular property tax levy to \$_____ * per thousand dollars of assessed value?

(This shall not be construed to authorize an excess levy and shall be subject to otherwise applicable statutory limits.)

Yes ☐

No ☐

*See Attachment A

ATTACHMENT A

If an emergency medical service levy is in effect, the dollar amount can be raised to a maximum of \$1.50 per thousand of assessed valuation. The District Board may set any dollar amount deemed necessary up to the \$1.00 or \$1.50 maximum limit.

In addition to the \$1.00 or \$1.50 above, another \$.50 is allocated if a district has at least one full time paid employee, which would total \$2.00 with an EMS levy.

Regular Property Taxes Authorized:

\$.50 RCW 52.16.130

\$.50 RCW 52.16.140

\$.50 RCW 52.16.160

\$.25 RCW 84.52.069